

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 02551 261303Z

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ACTION TRSE-00

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 USIE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SS-15 NSC-05

SY-05 USSS-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /038 W

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O 261236Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 437

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CAIRO 2551

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (SIMON, WILLIAM E.)

SUBJECT: SECRETARY SIMON'S VISIT TO EGYPT - PRESS COVERAGE

REF: USIA 5373

1. WE HAVE HAD TWO REQUESTS FOR INDIVIDUAL INTERVIEWS WITH SECRETARY SIMON DURING CAIRO PORTION OF HIS VISIT TO EGYPT, AND WILL UNDOUBTEDLY HAVE MORE. ONE IS FROM AMERICAN FREE-LANCER LIBBY BASSET, OTHER IS AHRAH ECONOMIC DIVISION. RECALLING THAT SCHEDULE FOR CAIRO VISIT IS TIGHT AND FACT THAT SECRETARY HAS INDICATED HE WILL WANT LEAVE EGYPT AS SOON AFTER MEETING WITH PRESIDENT AS POSSIBLE, WE HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE TO REPLY POSITIVELY TO THESE REQUESTS. IT OCCURS TO US, HOWEVER, THAT IN ADDITION TO BRIEF REMAKRS TO PRESS WHICH WILL BE POSSIBLE AFTER SIGNING PL-480 CEREMONY AT PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, WE COULD IF SECRETARY WISHES, SCHEDULE PRESS CONFERENCE FOR HIM AT SOME OTHER TIME DURING CAIRO STAY.

2. FOLLOWING ARE THREE FEASIBLE OPTIONS:

(A) FOLLOWING LUNCH ON MARCH 6, BEFORE MEETING WITH DR. SHAFEL,
(B) MORNING MARCH 7 AT 0830, PRIOR TO MEETING WITH US/EGYPTIAN JOINT BUSINESS COUNCIL, (C) AFTER SECRETARY'S MEETING WITH PRESIDENT SADAT.

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PAGE 02 CAIRO 02551 261303Z

3. IN OUR JUDGEMENT MEETING IN MORNING MARCH 7 WOULD

BE THE BEST TIME, BUT WE WILL BE GUIDED BY THE
SECRETARY'S WISHES ON WHETHER A PRESS CONFERENCE IS DESIRED AND,
IF SO, WHEN TO SCHEDULE IT,PLEASE ADVISE SOONEST.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 FEB 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976CAIRO02551
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760072-0666
From: CAIRO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760211/aaaaajey.tel
Line Count: 65
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION TRSE
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <07 JUN 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <06 JUL 2004 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SECRETARY SIMON'S VISIT TO EGYPT - PRESS COVERAGE
TAGS: OVIP, (SIMON, WILLIAM E)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006